

JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE

Activity: State Conservation Grants Administration

	2000 Enacted	Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	2001 Budget Request	Change From 2000 (+/-)
State Conservation Grants Administration	1,000	0	+4,000	5,000	+4,000
Total Requirements \$(000)	1,000	0	+4,000	5,000	+4,000

AUTHORIZATION

16 U.S.C. 4601-4-11, Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF) Act of 1965, as amended

OVERVIEW

The State Conservation Grants Administration activity administers previously awarded and new grant projects in cooperation with State partners so as to ensure accountability and compliance with site conservation and public access mandates.

APPLICABLE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MISSION GOALS

- IIIb Through partnerships with other federal, state and local agencies and nonprofit organizations, a nationwide system of parks, open space, rivers, and trails provides educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people.
- IIIc Assisted through Federal funds and programs, the protection of recreational opportunities is achieved through formal mechanisms to ensure continued access for public recreational use.

State Conservation Grants Administration FY 2000 Estimated Program and Anticipated Accomplishments

Enacted: \$1,000,000

The \$1.0 million made available in FY 2000 for ongoing fiduciary activities will allow the NPS to increase its proactive activities by inspecting or certifying 5,000 project sites, negotiating and resolving an estimated 225 ongoing conversion issues, closeout of 171 active grants, processing 256 grant billings, and the resolution of five audit exceptions. Since new funding for State Conservation Grants has not been available for several years, restarting the program in FY 2000 will require, in addition to the regular fiduciary responsibilities, updating program guidelines, providing technical assistance to States in updating or developing new plans, training State and NPS staff, and conducting onsite reviews of potential recreation sites to ensure compliance with program requirements.

Land Acquisition and State Assistance/State Conservation Grants Administration**Performance Goals**

Long-term Goal IIIc1	By September 30, 2005, 100% of the 34,602 recreational properties (estimated for September 30, 2005) assisted by the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program, and the Federal Lands to Parks Program are protected and remain available for public recreation.
Annual Goal IIIc1	By September 30, 2001, 100% of the 32,689 recreational properties assisted by the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program, and the Federal Lands to Parks Program are protected and remain available for public recreation.

State Conservation Grants Performance Information	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Estimate	FY 2001 Estimate
Number of sites inspected and certified operational	1,435	5,000	7,000
Number of sites threatened	200	225	250
Number of active grants completed and closed out	118	171	125
Number of new grants awarded	0	560	1,500

FY 2001 BUDGET REQUEST

	2001 Budget Request	Program Changes (+/-)
▪ State Conservation Grants Administration \$(000)	5,000	+4,000
The FY 2001 request for State Conservation Grants Administration is \$5.0 million, which represents an increase of \$4.0 million over the FY 2000 enacted level. The FY 2001 proposed programmatic increase of \$4.0 million to State Conservation Grants Administration activities includes:		
	\$(000)	
▪ State Conservation Grants Administration	4,000	
Total	4,000	
Justification for this increase is included at the end of this activity’s presentation.		

**JUSTIFICATION OF FY 2001 BUDGET REQUEST FOR STATE CONSERVATION GRANTS
ADMINISTRATION**

	2001 Budget Request	Program Changes (+/-)
State Conservation Grants Administration \$(000)	5,000	+4,000

Land Acquisition and State Assistance/State Conservation Grants Administration

The FY 2001 request for the State Conservation Grants Administration is \$5.0 million and 62 FTE, which represents an increase of \$4.0 million and 45 FTE above the FY 2000 enacted level. The programmatic increase of \$4.0 million for the State Conservation Grants Administration activity is justified by the proposed change that follows:

- ***State Conservation Grants Administration (+\$4,000,000; +45 FTE):*** The NPS is proposing an increase of \$4.0 million and 45 FTE in FY 2001 for administration of the State Conservation Grants program. The proposed \$145 million grant program would more than triple the amount available for State and local assistance. Estimated administrative and stewardship requirements for the expanded program include: reviewing and approving 1,500 new grants, inspection and certifying 7,000 project sites; processing 250 conversion issues; closing out 125 active grants; and reviewing 25 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation plans or updates to existing plans. As with fiscal year 2000, administrative responsibilities will increase as participation in the program increases, with States requiring technical assistance with plans, training of staff, and greater numbers of compliance reviews. This request is included within the Administration's Land Legacy Initiative.